GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1248
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2001
MINERAL RESERVES
RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any survey to find out the mineral reserves in States of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Uttaranchal recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State and mineral-wise;

(c) the steps taken to explore the mineral resources and also maintain the ecological balance in these newly created States, separately;

(d) whether the Government have approved/received proposals from International Mining Companies for prospecting and exploration of minerals in Jharkhand;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the amount of foreign exchange likely to be earned therefrom by the State?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVISHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has been conducting survey for minerals in areas under the newly formed states of Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Uttaranchal continuously.

GSI has estimated a reserve of coal to the tune of 69.2 billion tonne in Jharkhand and 29.6 billion tonne in Chhattisgarh as on 1.1.2001.

The recoverable reserves as on 1.4.95 are as:

JHARKHAND : 2657 million tonne (MT) elematite, 5 MT magnetite, 2,363 MT manganese ore, 0.334 MT chromite, 108.69 MT coppe ore, 0.0072 MT gold ore, 3.07 MT apatite, 0.04 MT asbestos, 66.022 MT bauxite,21.864 MT dolomite, 0.39 MT graphite, 511.102 MT limestone, 50.457 MT fireclay, 131.688 MT quartz-silica sand and 0.0014 MT mica.

CHHATTISGARH : 1925 MT hematite, 0.567 MT gold ore, 28.895 MT tin ore, 54.706 MT bauxite, 612.21 MT dolomite, 4941.447 MT limestone, 10.895 MT fireclay and 0.625 MT quartz-silica sand.

UTTARANCHAL : 1.20 MT lead-zinc ore, 1.12 MT copper ore, 15.529 MT rock phosphate, 0.0002 MT asbestos, 160.337 MT dolomite, 1.164 MT gypsum, 1068.104 mt limestone and 185.747 MT magnesite.

(c) : Detailed geochemical appraisal for copper, zinc and gold in Ghimtoli area, Chamoli district of Uttaranchal state has recently been completed. During Field Season October 2001-September 2002,GSI proposes to conduct two investigations forgold and two investigations for diamond in Chhattisgarh, and three investigations for gold in Jharkhand.

As regards ecological balance GSI has programmed following two items of geoenvironmental studies in Jharkhand.

i) Impact assessment of mining activities in the Subarnarekha basin.

ii) Preliminary geoenvironmental assessment to facilitate urban expansion planning of Hazaribagh and adjoining areas, Hazaribagh district, Jharkhand.

(d) : No, Sir.

(e) & (f) : Question does not arise.